



SWADLINCOTE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

Medical Officer of Health

MALCOLM ALLAN

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

and of the

Senior Public Health Inspector

DAVID HENRY BRADBURY

D.P.A., M.A.P.H.I.

FOR THE YEAR

1957

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health :

MALCOLM ALLAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector and Housing Officer :

(also Inspector under the Shops Act)

DAVID HENRY BRADBURY, D.P.A., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health

Inspector P. R. BRAMLEY, M.A.P.H.I.

Senior Clerk MR. R. J. LAKIN.

Junior Clerk MISS V. M. TILLEY.

(To 15th June, 1957)

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

(Up to April, 1958)

Chairman : ALDERMAN J. W. ALLITT, M.B.E.

Vice-Chairman : COUNCILLOR J. STRETTON

Councillors : C. CLAMP, MRS. E. HARDY, W. LORD, J. C. MOULSON, R. A. C. THOMPSON, W. H. WHITEHEAD, MRS. F. A. BRIGHTMAN, J.P., E. C. CLAMP, T. H. EDWARDS, W. HEAPE, C. SHIPTON, W. BREALEY, J.P., G. C. HOLMES, R. PERCIVAL, F. A. TRAVIS, A. WHITTAKER.

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
WELFARE CLINIC**

Alexandra Road, Swadlincote

Ante-Natal Clinics

2nd and 4th Tuesdays in each month, 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
Doctor attends each session.

Child Guidance

By appointment.

Dental Treatment

Temporarily unstaffed.

Eye Clinic

By appointment (2nd and 4th Thursdays in each month, commencing at 2.30 p.m.).

Infant Welfare Centre

Every Monday, 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Minor Ailments Clinics

Monday, a.m. and 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.
Doctor present.

Orthopaedic Clinic

By appointment. (1st and 3rd Tuesdays in each month, 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 4 p.m.).

Speech Therapy

Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

Immunisation against Diphtheria

Facilities for immunisation are available on request, when the Doctor is in attendance at Infant Welfare Centres and Minor Ailment Clinics.

Repairs or Replacements of Glasses for School Children

The necessary form may be obtained on request from the Principal School Medical Officer, County Offices, St. Mary's Gate, Derby, or from the School Medical Officers.

CHEST CLINICS

Burton-on-Trent

Chest Clinic,
59 Milton Street,
Burton-on-Trent.

New cases by appointment through own Doctor. (Monday 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon).

Derby

The Derby Chest Clinic,
93 Green Lane,
Derby.

New cases by appointment through own Doctor. Wednesday 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon.
Fridays, 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Saturdays (Contacts), 10 a.m. to 12 noon. No appointment necessary.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR YEAR 1957

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Swadlincote Urban District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1957.

As can be seen from the vital statistics within the body of the Report, the general health of the people remains good. The most delicate index of the health of an area is the infantile mortality rate, and this is now lower than the new "low" for the country generally—in 1956 it was for England and Wales, 23.7 per thousand related live births. We still have a good way to go in this country before we can match the figures for infantile mortality in such countries as Sweden, New Zealand and the Netherlands, but that objective is drawing hearteningly closer. As further evidence of the good health of our district there was no serious outbreak of infectious disease during the year.

Fortunately there was no notified Poliomyelitis throughout the whole year. I had the privilege of visiting the Harlow Wood Orthopaedic Hospital where there is a special Polio rehabilitation unit which includes, amongst other things, a hydrotherapy pool where the patients in many cases find that they can walk in the water, even when the muscles are very weak because of the buoyancy and also they can get some muscle movements although they are quite unable to move these muscles on the dry land, because of the pull of gravity. Our Urban District is within the catchment area of this rehabilitation unit.

There was a small outbreak of Measles, but this was much less than would have been expected for an epidemic year, and the type of disease was mild. There was one admission to Hospital and no deaths.

At the beginning of September there was an outbreak of mild influenza in the District, and this was just part of a World pandemic which started in the north of China at the beginning of the Spring and penetrated into the interior of the country where the virus was isolated for the first time at Peking in March. The virus responsible for the epidemic, A/Asia/57, is quite distinct from any of the viruses which have caused epidemics in the last twenty-five years. The virus was brought over by air to our country from specimens recovered in Singapore, and vaccines prepared, but unfortunately the epidemic spread so rapidly that the Research Council was unable to have a full scale vaccination scheme carried out before the epidemic spread

widely in this country. The outbreak in the District occurred early in September, and the absentee rate at the schools was from 60%—65% and the General Practitioners considered that there were about equal number of children and adults affected. One large group of General Practitioners told me that the disease was mild, and that complications were very few except in those who had previous chronic chest trouble, e.g. bronchitis or bronchiectasis and that there had been very few admissions to Hospital, and despite the widespread nature of the disease there were only five deaths from influenza over the whole year.

During the year, there were no notified cases of Food Poisoning which reflects great credit on the Public Health Inspectors and Food Handlers. As has been said, there is no doubt that the less spectacular, but infinitely more valuable method of imparting knowledge in the course of routine inspection of food premises when bad practices and faulty technique can be observed and corrected on the spot shows far better results which denote real progress. A lesson thus learnt is not readily forgotten, and it is much easier to judge whether a food handler is really grasping basic principles of good hygiene when he is seen operating in his own environment. Regular personal contact enables teaching to be reiterated and extended until good hygiene procedure becomes automatic.

The caravan dwellers, temporary and permanent, cause a very acute health problem all over the country, and it is common experience to see very large caravan sites all round our coastal areas and in some cases the amenities leave much to be desired. It certainly would promote the health of these camps if the Local Authorities were able to exercise greater control, and I am quite sure that the owners of some sites could plough back a higher proportion of their financial returns into the provision of better and more extensive amenities on the sites. There is, of course, the “residential caravanner” about 200,000 of them, and it would be much better if the Ministry of Housing and Local Government could suggest legislation to prevent these caravans being used as permanent homes, except on very strict licensing for that very small group of people who, because of the nature of their work, require to move from one place to another every few years.

The Public Health Service has, over the years, done a great deal to reduce the perils of infectious disease, but as is well known there is that deadly peril still with us—air pollution. With industrial growth, more and more gases, vapours, fumes, dusts and other impurities are poured into the air we breathe. This increasing pollution of the atmosphere must be prevented if our health is to be safeguarded from its disastrous effects. The worst fog disaster in modern times was the one that ravished London in December, 1952. Smoke-polluted fog in the Thames Valley during the four days 5th to 8th December, is estimated to have caused between 3,500 and 4,000 deaths. In the past hundred years only the peak week

of influenza in November 1918 produced more deaths over the expected normal than did the “smog” in 1952, and even the cholera epidemic of 1866, could not quite equal it. Following disaster, the Government called for an investigation which resulted in a series of recommendations aimed at preventing recurrences. Nevertheless a similar, but less severe “smog” occurred in 1956, estimated to have caused one thousand additional deaths in greater London and a London fog during the period 2nd-5th December, 1957 will be remembered as the cause of the Lewisham rail disaster which gave rise to eighty-seven deaths and shocked the country. This same fog mainly due to Atmosphere Pollution caused between 800-1,000 deaths in Greater London. Now the Local Authorities have much greater supervision and powers under the Clean Air Act, 1956, and under Section 29 it is statutory duty of Local Authorities to enforce the provisions of the Act in their district, and this of course will greatly increase the work of the Public Health Inspectors, who are already overloaded.

The Chief Medical Officer of Health to the Ministry of Health in his Annual Report for the year 1956 makes some comment on the so-called “tranquillizer drugs.” The Report says that though the evidence for calming the mind without impairing consciousness or intellect is slender, these drugs are being used on a steadily increasing scale both by Psychiatrists and General Practitioners. For the treatment of severe psychoses, some of them are undoubtedly useful. Whether in the long run any of them will contribute very much to mental health, especially in the treatment of the numerically more important neuroses, remain to be seen. Meanwhile, it is becoming increasingly evident that all these drugs have their dangers. In some, these are tangible, such as occasional toxic reactions like fatal agranulocytosis. In others there are the long-term effects, less easy to assess, on the personality and the mental stamina of those who become increasingly prone to escape the minor adversities of life simply by taking pills.

Within the Report there is a list of County Council Clinics, for which I am indebted to Dr. Morgan, County Medical Officer of Health.

It is a pleasure to take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman and members of the Council, General Practitioners, Health Visitors, Heads of Departments and Staffs particularly, of course, all the Staff of the Public Health Department, especially the Senior Public Health Inspector.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

MALCOLM ALLAN,
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Area of District in Acres (inclusive of water)	3,754
Number of inhabited houses	5,977
Rateable Value	£151,775
Sum represented by a penny rate	£597
Population (Census), 1931	20,604
Population (Census), 1951	20,909
Population Registrar General's Estimate, 1956	19,780

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

	<i>Total</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
Legitimate	274	142	132	Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population. Crude 14.3 Corrected 14.1
Illegitimate	9	3	6	
	<hr/> 283	<hr/> 145	<hr/> 138	

Still Births

Legitimate	1	1	—	Rate per 1,000 total live and still Births—3.52.
------------	---	---	---	---

Deaths (All Ages)

198	113	85	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident popula- tion. Crude 10.01 Corrected 11.71 (In ascertaining the cor- rected rates the following comparability factors were used— Births 0.99 Deaths 1.17)
-----	-----	----	---

Deaths of Infants under one year of age

Legitimate	6	3	3
Illegitimate	—	—	—

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age

All infants per 1,000 live births	21.20
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ..	21.90
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ..	—
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years)	Nil

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE DURING YEAR 1957

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Total Cases Notified</i>	<i>Cases Admitted to Hospital</i>
Measles	104	1
Lobar Pneumonia	10	—
Scarlet Fever	14	—
Whooping Cough	26	—
Meningococcal Meningitis	1	1
Dysentery	2	—
Influenzal Pneumonia	6	—
Ophthalmic Neonatorum	1	—
Erysipelas	1	—

CASES OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASE AT VARYING AGES

Disease	Age Group															Unknown	Total
	0—	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	6—	7—	10—	15—	20—	35—	45—	60—			
Measles ..	5	10	18	15	12	17	14	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	7	104	
Lobar Pneumonia ..	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	1	1	3	—	10	
Scarlet Fever ..	—	—	—	1	1	1	3	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	14	
Whooping Cough ..	3	1	5	1	4	2	4	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	3	26	
Meningococcal Meningitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	
Dysentery ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	
Influenzal Pneumonia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	4	—	6	
Ophthalmic Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	
Erysipelas ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	

TUBERCULOSIS

	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	
Number of cases notified during 1957	7	5	—	—	12
Number of cases on Register 31st December, 1957 ..	77	42	24	23	166

SCABIES TREATMENT

There were no cases of Scabies treated at the Clinic during the year.

CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS

<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>All Ages</i>			<i>Mortality Rate per 1,000 pop.</i>
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>	
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory system ..	2	—	2	0.10
Other forms of Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—
Syphilitic Disease	1	—	1	0.05
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—
Other Infective and parasitic diseases ..	—	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	1	5	0.25
Malignant neoplasm, Lung brochus ..	6	—	6	0.30
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	1	1	0.05
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	—	—	—
Other Malignant and Lymphatic neoplasms	12	6	18	0.90
Leukaemia Aleukaemia	—	2	2	0.10
Diabetes	1	1	2	0.10
Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	9	23	32	1.60
Coronary disease, angina	15	6	21	1.05
Hypertensions with heart disease	4	5	9	0.45
Other heart diseases	16	11	27	1.35
Other circulatory disease	10	11	21	1.05
Influenza	3	2	5	0.25
Pneumonia	2	2	4	0.20
Bronchitis	12	3	15	0.75
Other diseases of Respiratory system ..	3	1	4	0.20
Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum	2	1	3	0.15
Gastritis enteritis and diarrhoea	1	—	1	0.05
Nephritis and nephrosis	3	1	4	0.20
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—	1	0.05
Pregnancy, childbirth abortion	—	—	—	—
Congenital malformations	1	—	1	0.05
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	2	5	7	0.35
Motor vehicle accidents	—	—	—	—
All other diseases	1	3	4	0.20
Suicide	2	—	2	0.10
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—	—

WATER SUPPLY

The Council are responsible for the distribution of water, obtained in bulk from the Swadlincote and Ashby Joint Water Board, to the Urban Area, the supply being derived from the Bunter Sandstone measures to the south of Milton Village, and treated at the Board's works at Milton.

The Joint Board have completed their mains extension and are now taking a supply of the Derwent Valley Boards water into the Hartshorne reservoir.

Difficulties in the distribution of water to certain parts of the District continue to exist due to mining subsidence, and I am informed by Mr. J. W. May, M.I.Mun.E., M.Inst.H.E. the Council's Engineer and Surveyor, that it was necessary to carry out repairs to sixty-seven broken water mains, one hundred and six drawn joints to mains and one hundred and seven broken services to premises during the year.

Bacteriological sampling of the water as distributed from the Milton Water Works is done fortnightly. Chemical samples are also submitted for analysis at fairly frequent intervals. The health department also obtain samples regularly from various points in the Urban Area to check against results obtained from each supply.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND HOUSING
OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 1957

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Swadlincote Urban District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1957.

The year was particularly noteworthy for the introduction of the Rent Act, which came into force in July, and which was aimed at agreement between landlord and tenant on the matter of essential repairs for the statutory increase of rent. This of course brought many inquiries to the office, the result of which is given under the appropriate paragraph of this report.

A warning of "things to come" was given in August in the form of a white paper on the proposed new Slaughterhouse Regulations intended to secure humane slaughter and hygienic conditions which is commented upon in the text of the report.

An increase in the progress of slum clearance was made possible by the construction of twenty-six houses on the Darklands Estate for the rehousing of displaced families, but the brake placed on housing by high interest rates resulted in the cessation of building for general needs, consequently the "housing list" is again beginning to grow.

The Clean Air Act has been in force for a year now and although no visible progress has been made local industries have been informed of improvements expected of them within the next few years, and it is pleasing to note that in many cases every effort will be made to improve the air we breathe.

Food and food premises have continued throughout the year to receive the full attention of your inspectors and every animal slaughtered within the district was examined by them.

Once again it is my pleasurable duty to thank the Chairman of the Health and Housing Committees and Members of the Council for their continued assistance and support throughout the year. To the Medical Officer of Health I express my appreciation for the assistance and co-operation which he has so readily given, and to my fellow officers and staff, particularly in the Health Department, I record my sincere thanks for their loyal services.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

D. H. BRADBURY,

Senior Public Health Inspector and Housing Officer.

HOUSING

Building Programme

The number of new houses erected during the year was as follows :—

(i) By the Local Authority	..	..	..	28
(ii) By other Local Authorities	..	..	..	Nil
(iii) By other bodies or persons	..	..	..	30

Housing Programme

The year saw an increase in the number of houses dealt with under the provisions of the Housing Act, some forty houses being the subject of Orders made as follows :—

Houses demolished	..	4
Houses closed	..	7
Demolition Order made		20
Closing Order made	..	8
Families rehoused	..	26
Clearance Order made		12

Of this number nine families still required to be rehoused at the end of the year. The progress of the programme is depending upon the construction of new houses and in order to maintain a continuity in this field every effort should be made to utilise all available building sites.

Caravans

One Licence was granted during the year.

Improvement Grants

Eighteen applications were received during 1957 for grants towards the improvement of houses in the District, seventeen of which the Council approved. The total grant which the Council agreed to pay amounted to £3,115, the total payment actually made being £2,275 in respect of twelve applications.

Once again little or no interest has been shown in the scheme by the owners of tenanted property, the applications received coming almost exclusively from owner/occupiers.

Towards the end of the year, owing to the increase of the bank rate, the Council found it necessary to refuse applications for a limited period but at the time of writing, the position has improved and the Council is again making payments but not exceeding one third the cost of the approved work.

COMPLAINTS

510 complaints were recorded during the year relating to 680 items which are tabulated below.

<i>Complaints</i>					<i>Total Complaints Investigated</i>
Chimney Stack	..	..	..	..	4
House roof	..	..	..	..	10
Eaves, Gutters and Rain Water Pipes				..	14
Dampness	..	..	..	..	13
Ceiling Plaster	..	..	..	..	10
Wall Plaster	..	..	..	..	10
Floors—Defective	..	..	..	..	9
Staircases	..	..	..	..	2
Window Frames	..	..	..	..	9
Sash Cords	..	..	..	..	3
Doors	..	..	..	..	3
Fireplaces	..	..	..	..	7
Wash Coppers	..	..	..	..	6
Sinks and Wash-hand Basins	..	..	..	..	3
Water Supply :					
Insufficient and defective			..	..	1
Burst Supply Pipes		..	..	..	6
Water in Cellars	..	..	..	..	2
Soft Water Cistern		..	..	..	2
Dirty Conditions	..	..	..	..	2
Food Store	..	..	..	..	1
Water Closets :					
Compartment	..	..	..	..	2
Water Supply	..	..	..	..	2
Pedestal	..	..	..	..	2
Seat	..	..	..	..	1
Cistern	..	..	..	..	2
Joints Defective	..	..	..	..	1
Drainage :					
Obstructions	..	..	..	..	37
Drains defective	..	..	..	..	14
Vent Pipe	..	..	..	..	1
Yard Paving	..	..	..	..	6
Mining Subsidence	..	..	..	..	22
Dustbins	..	..	..	..	203
Refuse Accumulations	..	..	..	..	9
Animals, Improper keeping :					
Dogs, Cats, etc.	..	..	..	..	1
Infestations :					
Rats	..	..	..	..	106
Mice	..	..	..	..	43
Beetles	..	..	..	..	15
Ants	..	..	..	..	41
Woodworm	..	..	..	..	4
Fly	..	..	..	..	2
Bed Bugs	..	..	..	..	1
Crickets	..	..	..	..	1
Disinfections requested		..	..	..	12
Domestic Smoke Nuisances	..	..	..	..	5
Offensive Smells	..	..	..	..	13
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	10
Unsound Food	..	..	..	..	6
Condition of Gardens	..	..	..	..	1
					680

REPAIRS COMPLETED

Chimney Stack—Overhauled	..	..	6
New Pots provided	..	..	3
House Roof—Repaired	..	..	26
Eaves Gutters—Repaired	..	..	22
Rainwater Fallpipes—repaired, renewed and cleansed	..	..	8
Dampness :			
Rising Dampness	..	..	4
Perished Brickwork	..	..	7
Perished Brick Pointing	..	..	10
Ceiling Plaster	..	..	27
Wall Plaster	..	..	30
Floors repaired	..	..	15
Stairs	..	..	1
Windows :			
Frames repaired	..	..	21
Frames renewed	..	..	17
Sash Cords repaired	..	..	19
Doors repaired	..	..	7
Cooking Ranges :			
Repaired	..	..	4
New Range provided	..	..	3
Fireplaces—repaired	..	..	5
Sinks and Wash-hand Basins	..	..	3
Water Supply	..	..	4
Water Closets :			
Additional provided	..	..	2
Compartment required	..	..	2
Water Supply	..	..	11
Pedestal	..	..	9
Seat	..	..	1
Cistern	..	..	6
Joint Defective	..	..	2
Drainage :			
Additional lengths provided	..	..	20
Obstructions removed	..	..	73
Drains repaired	..	..	59
Yard Paving—Repair or provide	..	..	7
Verminous Premises	..	..	10
Dustbins	..	..	356
Smoke Nuisances : Domestic	..	..	9
Standing Water	..	..	5
Mining Subsidence	..	..	3
Miscellaneous	..	..	6
Soft Water Cistern	..	..	6
Water in Cellars	..	..	6
			<hr/>
			735
			<hr/>

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND RESULTANT ACTION

The following information is compiled in tabular form and is in fact a summary of work undertaken in the department during 1957.

The table supplies details of inspections carried out on :—

(A) Housing.

(B) General.

(C) Number of interviews.

(D) Number of Notices served.

(E) Notices complied with.

(A) Housing.

Visits under the Housing Acts	..	..	1,147
Visits under the Public Health Acts	..	..	1,015

(B) General.

Factories	..	..	..	..	..	159
Outworkers	..	..	..	..	..	3
Verminous Premises and Articles	..	..	..	..	..	16
Schools	..	..	..	..	..	5
Keeping of Animals	..	..	..	..	..	8
Water supplies and Water sampling	..	..	..	..	..	53
Infectious Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	12
Food Premises	..	..	..	..	..	2,633
Pest Destruction	..	..	..	..	..	38
Caravans and Caravan Sites	..	..	..	..	..	52
Dustbins	..	..	..	..	..	276
Drain Testing and inspection	..	..	..	..	..	258
Shops Acts	..	..	..	..	..	273
Mining Subsidence	..	..	..	..	..	27

(C) Interviews.

Complaints	..	..	..	..	..	73
Housing Applicants	..	..	..	..	..	662
Owners	..	..	..	..	..	85
Contractors	..	..	..	..	..	64

		<i>Informal Notices Outstanding Jan. 1956</i>	<i>Formal Notices Outstanding Jan. 1956</i>
(D)	Number of Notices Served.		
	Public Health Act, 1936 ..	75	5
	Food and Drugs Act, 1955 ..	26	—
	Factories Act, 1937	—	—
	Clean Air Act, 1956	—	—
	Derbyshire County Council Act, 1954	—	—

		<i>Informal Notices Served</i>	<i>Formal Notices Served</i>
	Public Health Act, 1936 ..	510	15
	Food and Drugs Act, 1955 ..	90	—
	Factories Act, 1937	7	—
	Clean Air Act, 1956	1	—
	Derbyshire County Council Act, 1954	1	—

(E)	Number of Notices complied with. (Including notices outstanding from 1956).	
	Public Health Act, 1936 ..	517
	Food and Drugs Act, 1955 ..	106
	Factories Act, 1937	7
	Clean Air Act, 1956	—
	Derbyshire County Council Act, 1954	1

DRAINAGE WORKS

In a district which is badly affected by subsidence it is surprising that sewers and drains continue to function as well as they do. This, in no small measure, is due to the vigilance of the representatives of the National Coal Board by whose action complaints and nuisances are kept to a minimum.

No major repair works were undertaken during the year.

The system operated, with the co-operation of the Surveyor's department, of clearing blocked drains upon written authority from the owners was continued.

Throughout the year 258 visits were made in connection with drainage work.

REFUSE RECEPTACLES

Dustbins provided up to 31st December, 1957.

			<i>Total</i>	<i>By Council</i>	<i>By Owner</i>	<i>By Tenant</i>
January	..		37	36	—	1
February	..		34	34	—	—
March	..	..	23	23	—	—
April	..	..	45	45	—	—
May	..	..	44	41	2	1
June	..	..	34	24	4	6
July	..	..	36	32	—	4
August	..		5	5	—	—
September	..		26	22	3	1
October	..		26	23	3	—
November	..		11	11	—	—
December	..		27	27	—	—
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
1957	..	..	348	323	12	13
1956	..	..	322	315	1	6
1955	..	..	396	329	44	23
1954	..	..	326	273	35	18
1953	..	..	168	159	5	4
1952	..	..	190	151	20	19
1951	..	..	153	115	22	16
1950	..	..	328	215	84	29
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total for eight years			2,231	1,880	223	128
			<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

WATER SUPPLY

Representative samples of piped towns water supply were submitted for examination during 1957. The table on this page gives a summary of the results.

		<i>Chemical</i>		<i>Bacteriological</i>	
		<i>Sat.</i>	<i>Unsat.</i>	<i>Sat.</i>	<i>Unsat.</i>
Swadlincote and Ashbys Joint Water Board	..	4	—	34	17
Total	..	4	—	34	17

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

It has been said that clean air is as essential to the health and well-being of any community as the provision of a pure and wholesome water supply, and it is with this in mind that local authorities should make every endeavour to make it possible.

The task which lies before us is fraught with difficulties and will call for much hard work and expense if we are to contribute to the fulfilment of the Nation's aim in the elimination of smoke, soot, grit and fumes from the atmosphere.

The Clean Air Act 1956 has given local authorities power and incentive to make great progress towards the ultimate goal. Every manufacturer and householder should become "clean air minded" and co-operate in the Country's effort.

In many parts of the country progress has been made by the establishment of smoke control areas even in large manufacturing towns and I feel that this Authority should give serious consideration to this part of the Act, but here we are confronted with one of our difficulties which I stressed in my Annual report, namely miners concessionary coal.

In communities such as Swadlincote, where miners reside in all parts of the district this presents a large problem in considering the establishment of smoke control areas and I would suggest that this and all such authorities should make urgent representations to Parliament, the National Coal Board and the Mineworkers Union to make every effort to find a solution to the problem in order that local authorities can make definite plans towards the fulfilment of the requirements and ultimate objectives of the Act. This having been done the way will be open for the elimination of domestic smoke which forms a large proportion of our atmospheric pollution.

Our second problem is the smoke from the kilns which are an essential part of one of our staple industries but which make a large contribution to the pollution of the air in this district. A complaint was received of this type of smoke being drawn into the air intake of a local colliery from kilns in the vicinity causing a haze of sulphurous smoke at the pit bottom. We look forward to the day when this type of nuisance will be overcome through the close co-operation of the Alkali Inspectorate of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and ceramic manufacturers.

Smoke from industrial steam raising plants can be dealt with by improvements in stoking methods which practically eliminate reliance on the human element for their efficiency. Manufacturers are becoming more and more aware of this fact and realising the economic value of mechanical stoking. This is I think the least of our problems in that a monetary saving can be achieved in the long run and on these grounds alone we can expect the co-operation of industry.

At the present time we have no indication of the degree of pollution within the Urban Area and consider that in order to form a picture of the position it would be advantageous to establish atmospheric recording units at at least two points within the District.

RODENT CONTROL

The efforts of Mr. Ford the Rodent Operator to keep within reasonable bounds the nuisance caused by the habits and activities of rats and mice have been continued, and the following tables give some indication of his work.

Sewer treatment was again carried out with the much appreciated co-operation of the Engineer and Surveyor's department. During the course of this operation Swadlincote experienced a very heavy storm which caused excessive surcharging of the sewerage system and resulted in the swamping of baits, but deposited a high number of drowned rats at the disposal works.

The rat population at one of the Council tips temporarily increased but with extra concentration their numbers were gradually decreased and kept within control.

SUMMARY OF RODENT OPERATOR'S ACTIVITIES, 1957.

<i>Type of Premises</i>	<i>No. of Premises Inspected</i>	<i>No. of Treatments</i>		<i>No. of Baited Points</i>		<i>No. of Bodies recovered</i>		<i>Estimated Kill</i>	
		<i>Rats</i>	<i>Mice</i>	<i>Pre-bait</i>	<i>Poison</i>	<i>Rats</i>	<i>Mice</i>	<i>Rats</i>	<i>Mice</i>
Local Authority Property (other than properties of which permanent points are established)	16	16	—	241	184	39	—	89	—
Dwellingshouses	629	580	32	1,860	2,750	410	87	1,164	175
Agricultural Property	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	30	—
All Other Property	28	25	3	416	337	83	10	191	47
	673	621	35	2,517	3,311	540	97	1,474	222

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF RODENT OPERATOR'S ACTIVITIES, 1957.

1957	No. of Premises Inspected	No. of Premises Inspected and Baited	No. of Pre-bait Points	No. of Poison Bait Points	Dead Rats Found	Dead Mice Found	Estimated No. of Rats Killed	Estimated No. of Mice Killed
January	84	84	478	368	57	15	115	43
February	72	72	446	313	37	—	133	10
March	125	122	554	421	49	16	199	32
April	77	77	316	344	70	3	239	7
May	81	81	416	347	79	—	211	4
June	60	46	242	300	61	—	130	2
July	24	24	30	172	30	2	82	8
August	13	13	35	71	21	—	46	—
September	68	68	—	251	48	6	108	16
October	42	42	—	571	62	50	143	74
November	27	27	—	153	26	5	68	26
December								
Totals	673	656	2,517	3,311	540	97	1,474	222

Summary of Normal Maintenance Treatment of Sewers

Treatment	Date	Total No. of Man- holes	No. not baited	No. baited	Pre-bait Takes				Down Pipes, etc.
					C.	P.	Total Takes	N.T.	
1st	Feb., 1944	489	119	370	Prebait Poison		125 111	245 14	— —
2nd	Sept., 1944	489	425	64	3	4	11 18	46	prebait poison
					—	7	11 18	1	—
3rd	July, 1944	463	26	447	12	17	35 64	375	—
4th	Feb., 1945	489	69	420	15	12	18 45	375	—
5th	Nov., 1945	489	68	421	15	19	38 72	349	—
6th	May, 1946	640	—	434	76	44	120	314	178
7th	April, 1947	653	207	446	112	118	230	216	177
8th	Dec., 1947	675	344	331	32	53	85	246	183
9th	Aug. and Sept., 1948	740	206	534	83	98	181	353	—
10th	Apl., 1949	740	235	505	79	106	185	320	—
11th	Nov., 1949	772	249	523	122	67	189	344	—
12th	Mar., 1950	811	274	537	81	40	121	416	—
13th	Sept., 1950	811	287	524	136	18	154	370	—
14th	Mar., 1951	814	284	530	78	12	90	440	—
15th	Oct., 1951	814	292	522	116	19	135	387	—
16th	Apl., 1952	570	95	475	52	—	52	422	—
17th	Oct., 1952	570	32	538	38	12	50	488	—
18th	Mar., 1953	563	40	523	37	37	74	486	—
19th	Oct., 1953	563	41	522	108	143	251	379	—
20th	Mar., 1954	564	45	519	112	121	233	398	—
21st	Oct., 1955	563	50	413	59	46	105	298	—
22nd	Nov., 1956	563	141	422	80	22	102	320	—
23rd	July, 1957	585	188	397	108	101	209	188	—

Abbreviations : C—Complete Takes. P—Part Takes. NT—No Takes.

DISINFESTATION

Sixty-two complaints were received of insect infestation during the year. Forty of these complaints were concerning ants, and eleven of beetles, and the majority of these were dealt with by the free issue of insect powder.

Other cases of infestation dealt with during the year were as follows :—

Cockroaches..	..	4
Woodworm ..	..	3
Wood-lice ..	..	1
Crickets ..	..	1
Flies ..	..	2
Bed Bugs ..	..	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

During recent years the incidence of some of the infectious diseases has fallen considerably and the practice of terminal disinfection which used to be considered an essential part in preventing the spread of infection has become a “thing of the past” and is now only carried out on the request of occupiers.

Approved disinfectants are available on enquiry at the Public Health Department, and on sixteen occasions were issued during the year.

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES

Register of Food Premises

The following table supplies information on the number and types of food premises in the Urban District.

<i>Type of Premises</i>	<i>Total</i>
Bakehouses	6
Butchers' Shops (Including making-up premises) ..	30
Cafe's, Restaurants and Canteens	15
Fried Fish and Chip Shops and Wet Fish Shops ..	19
Greengrocers	9
Grocers and General Stores (Excluding Off-Licences)	94
Corn Merchants	6
Licensed Premises	56
Off-Licences including those selling General Goods	34
Confectioners	15
Mineral Water Manufacturers	2
Ice Cream Manufacturers	2
	288

Inspection of Food Premises.

The following table is included as an indication of amount of work involved in routine inspection of food premises during the year.

Bakehouses	32
Dairies	4
Ice Cream Premises	195
Market Stalls	180
Milk Distribution	11
Preserved Food Shops	716
Other Retail Food Premises	248
Slaughterhouses	1,106
Butchers' Shops	141
	2,633

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955

The following is a summary of work carried out under the above Regulations during 1957.

Food Premises which have closed	..	..	..	4
New Foodrooms provided	..	..	..	3
Internal repairs	..	..	..	15
Inadequate lighting	..	..	..	1
Internal decoration	..	..	..	19
Handwashing facilities	..	..	..	21
Equipment washing facilities	..	..	..	7
Cleanliness (Premises)	..	..	..	9
Cleanliness (Persons)	..	..	..	2
Drainage repairs/Improvements	..	..	..	1
Cool Storage facilities	..	..	..	3
Foodroom communicating with W.C.	..	..	..	1
Absence of handwashing notices	..	..	..	3
Locker accommodation	..	..	..	2
Soap, Towel and Nailbrush	..	..	..	3
Pervious Surfaces	..	..	..	8
Food placed as to involve risk of contamination	..	..	..	1
Smoking	..	..	..	11
Infestations	..	..	..	1
First Aid Equipment	..	..	..	1

116

Unsound Food.

The following is an abbreviated list of items of food found to be unfit for human consumption during 1957 followed by a summary of the estimated weight of all condemnations of unfit food during each of the last seven years.

162 lbs.	Bacon
120 lbs.	Cooked Ham
62 lbs.	Corned Beef
28 lbs.	Tongue
30 lbs.	Pork Sausage
117 lbs.	Beef Sausage
3 lbs.	Luncheon Meat
12½ lbs.	Cheese
7 tins	Soup
5 tins	Pilchards
5 tins	Crab
1 tin	Carrots
1 tin	Spaghetti
5 tins	Stewed Steak
9 lbs.	Butter
60 lbs.	Sultanas
1 lb. jar	Beetroot
5 tins	Salmon
9 tins	Baked Beans
41 tins	Peas
345 tins	Tomatoes
31 tins	Milk
247 tins	Fruit
2 tins	Cream
52 lbs.	Cake
3½ lbs.	Jellied Veal
2 lbs.	Chopped Pork
3½ lbs.	Meat Loaf
3 tins	Crawfish
9 Meat Pies	
3 jars	Horseradish Sauce
1 tin	Baby Food
6 ozs.	Coconut
1 tin	Cream Pudding
1 tin	Pineapple Juice
1 Currant Loaf	
2¼ lbs.	Tea
8 lbs.	Chocolate Icing
20 lbs.	Biscuits
320 Mallowcremes	
15 lbs.	Caramels
1 tin	Meat Paste

1 tin	Orange Juice
15 Table Jellies	
2 tins	Mixed Vegetables
1 tin	Tomato Purre

The approximate weight of food condemned during recent years is as following :—

(a)	1957	..	13 cwts.
(b)	1956	..	11 cwts.
(c)	1955	..	23 cwts.
(d)	1954	..	29 cwts.
(e)	1953	..	30 cwts.
(f)	1952	..	55 cwts.
(g)	1951	..	44 cwts.

Summary of animals slaughtered, inspected and incidence of disease found.

			<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Horses</i>
Number killed (if known) ..	..	..	877	78	51	1,621	1,650	—
Number inspected ..	..	..	877	78	51	1,621	1,650	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci— Whole carcasses condemned ..	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	..	..	89	8	—	33	119	—
Total ..	..	..	89	8	—	33	119	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ..	..	..	10.1	10.2	—	2.0	7.6	—
Tuberculosis only : Whole carcasses condemned ..	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	..	..	52	6	1	—	51	—
Total ..	..	..	52	6	1	—	51	—
Percentage of the number inspected with Tuberculosis ..	..	..	5.9	7.7	.51	—	3.0	—
Cysticercosis : Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	..	..	6	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ..	..	..	6	—	—	—	—	—
Generally and totally condemned ..	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—

MEAT INSPECTION

100% inspection of all animals slaughtered at the nine slaughterhouses within the Urban Area was maintained throughout the year and the quality of the meat remained high.

Six cases of *cysticercus bovis* were found, none of which were generalised and the carcasses were all submitted to treatment by refrigeration at the cold storage depot in Burton-on-Trent. The affected parts namely three heads, one heart and two thick skirts were destroyed.

In August a Ministry White Paper was issued setting out in the form of draft regulations minimum standards of construction lay-out and equipment for slaughterhouses for the purpose of securing humane slaughter and hygienic conditions. After the passing of the necessary legislation these regulations will be brought into force, and the recommendations were issued at this time in order to facilitate their consideration by local authorities and private traders. In consequence all owners of slaughterhouses were circularised with recommendations to meet the requirements of the regulations and the initial re-action of these butchers was that they were prepared to consider the recommendation with a view to retention of their licences. Some, if not all of these premises can be adapted to meet the requirements, but much reconstruction will be necessary.

Summary of disease found and parts of animals affected.

TUBERCULOSIS.				<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>	<i>Ozs.</i>
Bovines.	Carcase Meat	..	..	—	—	1	27	—
	Organs	..	..	—	10	1	21	—
Pigs.	Carcase Meat	..	..	—	—	2	5	—
	Organs	..	..	—	6	2	19	—
Calves.	Carcase Meat	..	..	—	—	—	—	—
	Organs	..	..	—	—	—	1	—
				—	18	—	17	—
OTHER DISEASES.								
Bovines.	Carcase Meat	..	..	—	—	2	2	—
	Organs	..	..	—	9	—	4	—
Pigs.	Carcase Meat	..	..	—	3	2	—	—
	Organs	..	..	—	2	3	22	—
Sheep.	Carcase Meat	..	..	—	—	1	20	—
	Organs	..	..	—	—	1	14	—
Calves.	Carcase Meat	..	..	—	—	—	—	—
	Organs	..	..	—	—	—	—	—
				—	16	3	6	—

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

The County Analyst, R. W. Sutton, Esq., F.R.I.C., F.C.S., has kindly supplied the following information on behalf of the Derbyshire County Council who are the Food and Drugs Authority for the Urban Area :

“One hundred and eight samples, including sixty-three milks, were taken under the above Act in the Area of Swadlincote Urban District Council during the year 1957.”

“A sample of T.T. Channel Island Milk retailed by a Dairy Company contained added water. A full investigation at the Dairy disclosed faulty operation at the plant. The Company were cautioned.”

“A Dairy Company receiving fat deficient milk asked for samples to be taken in course of delivery from the farmer concerned. The samples taken were all seriously fat deficient and were followed “Appeal-to-Cow” samples—also seriously deficient in fat. There was therefore no evidence of deliberate abstraction of cream and the farmer was advised to seek the aid of the National Agricultural Advisory Service.”

“A formal sample of Lard was taken following the finding of foreign fat in an informal sample. The formal sample was satisfactory.”

Other samples on analysis were found to be satisfactory.

MILK SUPPLIES

Details of Milk Distribution, 1957.

The following table describes the type of local distributors up to 31st December, 1957 :—

Local Dairies	7
Licensed Local Retailers of Designated Milk	15
Supplementary Licensed Retailers of Designated Milk for outside Urban Area	8

Register at 31st December, 1957.

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations.

Dealers' Licences (Tuberculin Tested) Milk	14
Supplementary Licences (Tuberculin Tested) Milk ..	8
Supplementary Licences (Sterilised) Milk	1

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Regulations.

Dealers' Licences (Pasteurised)	15
Supplementary Licences (Pasteurised)	6
Additional Licences issued during 1957	Nil
Cancellations during 1957	2

Milk Examination.

Twenty-four samples were submitted to the County Laboratory for examination, and details of the results are shown in the following table.

Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations.

I am informed that the County Sampling Officer obtained from the Urban Area twenty-four samples during the year.

MILK EXAMINATIONS RESULTS, 1957

	Phosphatase		Meth. Blue			T.B.	
	Sat.	Unsat.	Sat.	Not done	Unsat.	Sat.	Unsat.
Tuberculin Tested							
Producer/Retailer ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
T.T. (Channel Island)							
Producer/Retailer ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised							
Producer/Retailer ..	6	—	5	1	—	—	—
Local Dealer	2	—	1	1	—	—	—
Pasteurised Milk							
Producer/Retailer ..	4	—	3	1	—	—	—
Local Dealer	4	—	3	1	—	—	—
	16	—	12	4	—	—	—

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT

One premise is registered under the provision of Section 2 of the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act.

PET ANIMAL ACT, 1951

A Licence under the Pet Animals Act was issued for one premise to be used for the purposes defined in the Act during 1956.

ICE CREAM

Details of Register, 31st December, 1957.

Registered for Manufacture only	..	..	..	..	2
Registered for sale only	..	..	..	..	81

Changes in Register, 1957.

			<i>Amend- ments</i>	<i>Addi- tions</i>	<i>Removed from list</i>
Number for Manufacture and Sale	..	..	..	—	—
Number for sale only	..		1	1	—

Bacteriological Analysis.

Twenty-eight samples of Ice Cream and Ice Lollies were submitted to the County Laboratory for examination with the following results.

				<i>Plate Count</i>		<i>Meth. Blue Test</i>		<i>Coliform Test</i>	
				<i>Satis.</i>	<i>Unsat.</i>	<i>Satis.</i>	<i>Unsat.</i>	<i>Satis.</i>	<i>Unsat.</i>
Ice Cream	—Local	..	..	—	—	3	—	—	—
	Other	..	..	—	1	7	—	—	—
Lollies	—Local	..	..	2	12	6	3	9	—
	Other	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—
				2	13	16	3	9	—

The grades given to samples of ice cream are based on the time taken to reduce Methylene Blue in the Laboratory. Grades one and two are considered to be satisfactory.

The results of the grading of the twenty-eight samples taken are as follows :—

				<i>Grade</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Grade</i>
				1	2	3	4
Local Manufacture	..			2	—	—	—
Outside	..	..	..	7	—	1	—
TOTAL				9	—	1	—

Eight Ice Lollies were designated satisfactory.
Ten Ice Lollies were designated unsatisfactory.

SHOPS ACT

The following table is the result of the annual survey of shops.

Summary of Types of Shops in the Urban Area.

	<i>Swadlin-</i>	<i>Newhall</i>	<i>Gresley</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>cote</i>			
Off Licences only	2	4	2	8
Off Licences and General Stores	8	4	12	24
Grocer and General Stores ..	25	33	23	81
Greengrocers and Florists ..	3	3	4	10
Butchers	16	7	7	30
Wet Fish only	3	—	—	3
Fried Fish and Chips	5	3	7	15
Confectioner and Tobacconists..	12	—	2	14
Cafes	3	—	—	3
Corn Merchants	3	1	1	5
Newsagents and Stationers ..	3	2	3	8
Shoes	2	1	1	4
Shoe repairs	3	2	2	7
Drapers, Outfitters and Millinery	18	2	8	28
Hairdressers	13	5	3	21
Jewellers and Watch Repairs ..	4	—	—	4
China, Crockery, Leather Goods and Toys	5	1	—	6
Hardware and Ironmongery ..	5	1	1	7
Radio, Electric, Cycle and Motor Spares	15	4	4	23
Dry Cleaners	2	—	1	3
Builders and Decorators Supplies	8	1	1	10
Entertainment	1	—	—	1
Second Hand Goods	1	—	—	1
Firewood and Paraffin Sales ..	1	1	1	3
Furniture	3	—	—	3
Multiple Stores	1	—	—	1
Seeds and Nurseryman	4	—	—	4
Commission Agents	2	1	1	4
Chemists	3	1	1	5
Photographic Materials	2	—	—	2
Wines and Spirits	1	—	—	1
Licensed Premises	20	21	15	56
Garages, etc.	7	4	1	12
	204	102	101	407

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Register.

The following table is a copy of the register of the factories in operation in the Urban Area :—

				<i>Swadlincote</i>	<i>Gresley</i>	<i>Newhall</i>
Pipe works	..	..	..	2	2	2
Brick works	..	..	..	2	—	—
Potteries	..	..	..	6	5	—
Tile Manufacturers	..	..	..	—	1	—
Flint Mill	..	..	..	—	1	—
Clay Grinders	..	..	..	—	1	—
Engineers	..	..	..	4	3	1
Iron Foundry and Pattern Makers				1	—	—
Rubber Manufacturers	..	..	..	1	—	—
Gas Undertaking	..	..	..	1	—	—
Motor Body Builders	..	..	..	1	1	—
Automobile Repairs	..	..	..	11	2	4
Waste Paper Baling	..	..	..	1	—	—
Joiners	..	..	..	4	2	2
Crate Manufacturers	..	..	..	2	—	—
Firewood Dealers	..	..	..	1	1	1
Plumbers	..	..	..	—	—	2
Upholsterers	..	..	..	2	—	—
Harness Makers	..	..	..	1	—	—
Cycle Repairs and Radio	..	..	..	3	1	—
Printing	..	..	..	2	1	—
Boot Repairs	..	..	..	2	1	1
Tailoring	..	..	..	2	1	—
Watch Repairs	..	..	..	1	—	—
Entertainment	..	..	..	1	—	—
Food Preparation	..	..	..	4	4	3
Bakeries	..	..	..	2	3	1
Ice Cream Manufacturers	..	..	..	2	—	—
Mineral Water Manufacturers	..	..	..	2	—	—
				61	30	17
Outworkers	..	..	..	2	1	—

During 1957, 159 inspections were made to premises registered under the Act. Requests were submitted on a number of occasions for works to be carried out ; details of action taken and the results therefrom is supplied in the following table.

	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	R'died	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness ..	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	7	7	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outworkers) ..	—	—	—	—	—
	7	7	—	—	—

Arthur Gaunt & Sons (Printers) Ltd.
Market Place, Heanor, Derbyshire